Drey lus-The War's Most Dramatic Resurrection

PARIS, Sept. 15. HE most dramatic resurrection of the late war, and perhaps of all history, is that of Colonel-better known as Captain-Alfred Dreyfus. Twenty-four years ago this brave, unfortunate man was sentenced to a living

After Twenty-four Years of Torture, Imprisonment, Persecution and Prejudice, the Unhappy Prisoner of Devil's Island Wins the Coveted Legion of Honor for His Great Services to France in the War



Devil's Island, So-called Account of Ita Horrible Climate.

After his reinstatement in the army at that earlier period he found the majority of officers as well as the leaders of society against him, and a military career became hopeless.

death as a traitor with every circumstance of shame and ignominy that France could devise. And now, after all these years. his country has appointed him an officer

But the struggles that have occurred in the interval make the drama even more wonderful than anything that can be imagined from the mere statement of these two essential facts. A reversal of Captain Dreyfus's original conviction was indeed obtained years ago after a remarkable campaign to prove his innocence, but that did not mean his complete rehabilitation. The whole power of the upper classes of France had been employed to secure his conviction and to uphold it. The same power continued unalterably against him, even after his innocence nad

of her famous Legion of Honor.

been proved.

The bunted, tragic man retired into obscurity, broken physically, but his amazing moral force never deserted him.

When this war broke out his opportunity came. The very existence of France as a nation was threatened and the services of every man of military training were demanded. Alfred Dreyfus, then a major of artillery on the retired list, was appointed to the command of one of the smaller forts surrounding Paris.

Then came the great irresistible rush of the Germans upon Paris. The invaders reached as far as the Bois de Boulogne, the great park of the metropolis, and the fate of France trembled in the balance. The French Government was removed hurriedly to Bordeaux on the western coast.

As most people know, the task of capring Paris was confided by the German Staff to General von Kluck, commander of the right wing of the German army. He was to swing around west of Paris, and, in combination with the other German armies, surround the capital.

In a last desperate life-and-death effort to stem the German invasion, all the French reserves that could be gathered in Paris were rushed forward to attack the army of Von Kluck at its junction with the other German armies. Thousands of the French soldiers, many of them elderly men, were hurried there in taxicabs.

This sudden onslaught nearly cut through von Kluck's army, and he was compelled to swing eastward to escape destruction. Paris was thus saved. In this desperate figating Alfred Dreyfus, the physically broken, long persecuted officer of artillery, acquitted himself heroically. He distinguished himself especially in the battle of the Ourcq, two days before the battle of the Marne.

The brilliant strategic move against Von Kluck's army made possible the great French victory of the Marne, which ended Germany's hope of swift success, and thus insured her final defeat.

For his services in this critical struggle Alfred Dreyfus was promoted lieutenantcolonel. But France owes him much beyoud his combatant services, for it is understood that he first discovered the diabolical espionage work that was being carried on by Mata Hari, the notorious Dutch dancer. It is one of the most singular circumstances of this great drama that a man once falsely accused as a spy should have trapped one of the most dangerous of real spies.

Mata Hari was a fascinatingly beautiful woman, the daughter of a Dutch planter in the East Indies and a native

Javanese woman. The girl married Campbell MacLeod, the disreputable scion of a Scottish noble family and separated from him. Having learned to dance in an Oriental temple she went to Europe and made consider-able success in Germany. There she was hired as a spy by the German General Staff.

She went to Paris and ensuared a young and heroes and soldiers had been finally French banker, whom she ruined financially. He was the brother-in-law of a French Cabinet Minister.

During the war Mata Harl, who was regarded as thoroughly French in sympathies, performed vital espionage service for the Germans. When the English had perfected their wonderful tanks and were about to launch them against the Germans in their offensive of 1916, the latter got wind of what was coming.

Mata Hari exercised her well-tried charms successfully upon an English officer who was in the tank service and had been sent to Paris ahead of their arrival. She learned from him when these new weapons would arrive at a French channel port. She went to that port and picked up certain valuable details about the nature of the tanks, and Germany was thus enabled to be at least partially on guard against them.

Mata Harl carried on most of her communications with Germany by way of the German espionage service at San Sebastian in Spain. This is a favorite cosmopolitan resort within a few miles of the French frontier, and there seemed no good reason why a foreigner sympathetic to France should not go to this resort and return.

Colonel Dreyfus, who had known some of the family of the young banker ruined by Mata Hari, considered certain facts he had learned about her and suggested, it is understood, to the French Government that it would be wise to investigate her.

An investigation of Mata Hari's activities by the French counter-espionage service followed and many evidences of her guilt were unearthed. She was arrested in the Fall of 1917 and tried by courtmartial.

Two weeks later the announcement was made that she had been condemned to death for espionage.

The dancer made a desperate fight for her life. She summoned every influential friend she had known in prosperity to help her. One of the best lawyers in Paris, Edouard Clunet, defended her. She obtained an appeal, but the sentence was confirmed by the Review Court and later ratified by the Supreme Court.

Every appeal having been exhausted, the sentence of the court-martial had to be carried out. Half an hour before dawn she was taken from her cell at St. Lazare, placed in an automobile between two officers and driven to the garrison town of Vincennes, two miles from Paris. The execution took place at sunrise, according to military tradition. The scene was the courtyard of the old castle. The prisoner was placed in a chair against a high wall with her eyes blindfolded. Twenty soldiers faced her, and at the word of command raised their rifles and fired into her Thus Mata Hari ended her troublous life.

When the long war was over, when vic-tory had at last been won and the nightmare of ruin and slavery had at last been removed from France, when all the generals Great Britain Rights Reserved.

rewarded, somebody suggested that justice should be done to poor Alfred Dreyfus. Even at the outbreak of the war the old prejudices against him were still rampant, but after his wonderful services during the great struggle not a voice was raised against him in any quarter-there was no

one indeed who would refuse to pay him

Before a distinguished gathering of generals and public men a famous general of France pinned the coveted ribbon of the Legion of Honor upon the breast of the bent, white-haired but still heroic soldier,

who was dressed in the full uniform of a lieutenant colonel of artillery.

What a contrast between this scene and that of January 5, 1895. Upon that fateful day 5,000 soldiers of the French army were drawn up in the Champs de Mars, on the left bank of the Seine, in the city of Paris. Alfred Dreyfus, looking like a man already dead, marched between a file of soldiers and came to a halt before General Darras. He wore a captain of artillery's uniform and carried a sword in his hand. The verdict of the courtmartial convicting him as a spy was read to him. An adjutant seized his sword and broke it across his knee. Then he cut all the insignia and buttons from the captain's uni-

"Vive la France," cried Dreyfus. "You have degraded an innocent man. I swear I am innocent."

Then he was marched away to his long purgatory on Devil's Island.

It is believed that the conspiracy to convice Dreyfus originated in the striving of some corrupt officers to conceal their own misdeeds. In 1894 a French scrubwoman at the German Embassy in Paris, found in the waste paper basket of Colonel Schwazkoppen, the German military attache, a scrap of paper called a "bordereau," which read in part:

"I send you some interesting information, namely a note concerning the hydraulic brake of the 120 cannon and the way the gun is managed. A note upon the 'troupes de couverture'; some modifications will be carried out according to the new plan. A note concerning the modifica-tions in the formations of artillery. A note relative to Madagascar. The pro-

Colonel Henry, an officer of the Intelligence Bureau of the French General Staff, who proved to be the villian of the whole drama, determined to put the authorship of this document on Captain Alfred Drey-He was an unpopular officer because

he was too reserved and studious. lie came of a prominent and wealthy Hebrew family of Alsace. Like many Alsatians he spoke with a slight German accent, but he had the highest claims to French nationality, for his family had remained faithful to France at the annexation of Alsace in 1870.
The villainous Colonel Henry forged

other incriminating documents in handwriting of the bordereau. Colonel du Paty de Clam, an associate, assisted him by obtaining some genuine specimens of Dreyfus's writing.

Bertillon, the famous handwriting ex-



Captain Alfred Dreyfus, As He Appeared At the Time of His Conviction As a Spy in 1895.

pert, was called in and agreed that the handwriting of the bordereau was that of Dreyfus. Meanwhile a wave of anti-Semitism was sweeping over France, most of the influential classes being involved in it.

A secret court martial was held and poor Dreyfus was condemned to Devil's Island for life.

This dreadful spot is a sand bar off the coast of French Guiana, barely rising above the sea. For two months of the year drenching tropic rains fall upon it. For the rest of the time it stews in a fearful heat, the temperature often rising to 120.

Dreyfus was confined in a hut, or rather a cage, eighteen by sixteen feet in extent. He was manacled to the wall by a chain, which just permitted him to move to his bed and solitary chair.

No one else lived on the island, for it was too unhealthy. Once a day a guard from another island came to look at Dreyfus and thrust his food at him with a long

shovel—as though he were a caged beast. Meanwhile the forces of justice all over the world were struggling for a reopening of the case. Emile Zola, the novelist, asserted that he was convinced of Dreyfus's innocence. The brave Colonel Picquart took up his cause and was banished to Tunis.

The scrubwoman of the German Embassy dived some more into the military attache's waste basket and unearthed a document that proved the handwriting of the "bordereau" to be that of Major Esterhazy, a disreputable officer of the French

Colonel Henry, accused of forgery and conspiracy, committed suicide. Many other things were found which forced the French Government to reopen the Dreyfus case.

In 1899 Dreyfus was brought back from his living tomb on Devil's Island, retried at Rennes and acquitted. But this did not rehabilitate him in the army. It was not until 1904, after many efforts, that Dreyfus was restored to his military rank.

He strove loyally to resume his broken career, but found the influences too great against him and gave up the struggle after two years. His complete restoration in every sense has only been made possible by the events of the great conflict.

Mata Hari, the Fascinatingly Beautiful Dutch-Javanese Dancer, Shot As

German Spy in Paris, Whose Tracking Down Was One of the Many Services Rendered to France by Persecuted Alfred Dreyfus.